

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please amend paragraph 0008 as follows:

A1 [0008] [[In a]]¹ first embodiment of the invention consists of two components. First, a frame that rests in the attic above a trap door or pull-down door, with or without a ladder, and second, a door or closure which rests on and within the frame in such a manner as to create a snug fitting. This combined solution provides a high insulating device that is the same or greater R-Factor as the insulation contained in the attic floor.

Pages 12 and 13 please amend paragraph 0041 as follows:

A2 [0041] Both the frame and the closure member are preferably made of lightweight dense insulating board such as an expanded polystyrene material with R-Factor sufficient, when used in conjunction with one another, to prevent lost of cool air from a structure when the ambient weather is warm and to prevent the loss of warm air from the structure when the ambient weather is

cool. Further, to provide for safety, ease of assembly and durability, the frame is sealed by a plastic shell or layer which is coated with a fireproof material, as shown at 35 in Fig. ~~2A~~ ^{2B} [[2]]. In a like manner, the closure member is also sealed and coated with the same plastic shell and fireproof material, as shown at 36. The fire retardant coated layers are preferably an elastomeric resin. The fireproof or retardant coating may be paints or sealants which meet fire hazard classifications ASTM E-84 (NFPA 255) Class A. One such product is Sherman Williams™ Flame Control No. 20-20, an intumscent material.
